



May 12, 2006

# This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

## Commissioner's Update:



Commissioner Little would like to salute the Northwest Correctional Complex on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. "My compliments to all the staff, especially those who have been around since the beginning", said Commissioner Little.

Commissioner Little says more exciting news is on the way for all TDOC employees, compliments of Governor Bredesen's latest budget.

This is news you won't want to miss...STAY TUNED!!!

Commissioner Little would also like to wish all employees a "Happy Mother's Day".

## Northwest Correctional Complex



## Northeast Correctional Complex:

Congratulations Officer Jeremy McCracken on being named Correctional Officer of the Year by the Security Department. Officer McCracken began his career on July 8, 2002. He says, "I enjoy working in the Security Department and learning something new each and every day." When he is not on the

job, Officer McCracken enjoys hunting and fishing and most of all, taking his son along to enjoy the outdoor life.

### **NECX Teacher of the Year:**

Mr. Wesley Kennedy began his career in September, 2000 as a food steward and was later promoted to Vocational Instructor in computer architect. Mr. Kennedy taught more than 30 inmates how to enhance skills and manage and maintain computers. His church, family and grandchildren are the joys of his life.



### **NECX Nurses of the Year:**

Linda Miller, RN has served in various positions since joining staff on August 27, 2001. Nurse Miller is the first shift charge nurse. In July, 2005 when all medical personnel became state employees, Nurse Miller showed true leadership. All who were a part of that transition say “THANKS A MILLION!!!”

Clara Gordon, RN has also been named a Nurse of the Year at NECX. Nurse Gordon came on staff in 1991 and has in-depth experience in all areas of the institution. Having young children was the driving force for her to work 3<sup>rd</sup> shift for many years. “Work nights and be there for the children during the day,” said Gordon. There was time when Nurse Gordon attempted retirement but she quickly returned.



**TCIP:** Officer Jeremy David receives the award for outstanding second shift service after Warden Wayne Brandon presented 20 recognition plaques for staff. Over 60 prizes were given away during Correctional Professionals Day including DVD'S, Wal-Mart gift cards, DVD players and the grand prize was a DVD surround sound home entertainment system.

DCCO representatives, former wardens and employees enjoyed the celebration.

**CBCX:** After 18 years of dedicated service, Ron Abbas received a plaque for his retirement. He served as food service manager at the annex.



Officer Taylor was presented a check from the Correctional Peace Officer Association after his family lost all of their possessions in the April 7<sup>th</sup> tornado. CBCX this week provided a tour for Sumner county teenagers who had an eye-opening and educational experience.

Donna Pair also received a plaque for her work with the ACA audit which CBCX recently celebrated.



### **WCBC:**

To show appreciation to Correctional employees, nurses and teachers this week, WCBC held a great social gathering with food provided by the institution. Congratulations to David Odle, former Maintenance Plumber, for his promotion to Facilities Manager. Thanks to all auditors who did the recent annual inspection. WCBC finished with a good score and were happy with the results!





## Tennessee Correction Academy:

Twenty-two Field Training Officers and Institutional Field Training Officers received certification training this week on the department's new Field Training Officer Manual. The training was facilitated by Academy personnel Patrick Ryan, Eric Hopkins and Sgt. Stanton Heidle from MCCX.



Congratulations to 16 medical professionals from DSNF, WTSP, ECBC, STSRCF and MLCC who successfully obtained IV Therapy certification at the Academy this week.

The Academy also welcomed 56 newly-hired personnel from TDOC and the Department of Children's Services. 37 of the total are correctional officers and we are very happy to have them.

## STSRCF:

Staff Appreciation Day will be Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at the STSRCF Firing range. The event will begin at 11:00 am. Your attendance will be valued and appreciated according to Deputy Warden Andrew Lewis.

## A Look Back:

BMCX warden Jim Worthington gives Brandon Maloney, Assistant Director of Classification, a tour of the Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary Centennial Museum.



The museum features archives from every major event at the prison. Tours are available by reservation.

## Hungry?

Take a tour of the Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex and you just may want to stop in to see Anna Cannon. She's the Food Service Manager at Brushy and gladly serves up three hot meals a day. More than 500 inmates are fed here each day and if you're lucky, she just might let you have a taste.



**Anna Cannon**  
**BMCX, Food Service Manager**



## Time to Give:

Don't forget the Blood Drive set for Tuesday, May 16 and Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am—11:00 am and 12:30pm—3:30 pm. Andrew Jackson Building First Floor Lobby  
Free Giveaways to all Participants.

The American Red Cross has issued an urgent appeal for O negative and B negative blood, all types are need. As Commissioner Little says, "We should all be thankful for the blessing we have. One small way of giving and sharing with others is through the gift of blood donation."

## Grand Finale:

TPW held its big cookout for Correctional Officer/Medical and Education Appreciation Week. The celebration accommodated staff from each shift and invited the entire family out!

## Field of Dreams:

The middle region garden under the direction of Chris Haley (Central Maintenance) and Sgt. Doug Griffith came along just fabulously. Officers from DSNF and CBCX along with inmates from CBCX II work in the garden. TPW horticulture program does all of the green house work and items are sent to the farm after germination. Items harvested include green onions, radishes, tomatoes, squash and so much more! Chris Haley said, "Inmates at all regional sites are very appreciative to have fresh seasonal produce".



## Quotes of the Week:

**"There are so many ways to be a fool, you can't miss them all, but try not to be all of them at the same time."**

-Henry Isaac, Jr., Pre-release Coordinator, MLCC

**"A smile is a curve that sets things straight!"**

-Gail Lents, Executive Secretary, WTSP

**"Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission."**

-Eleanor Roosevelt-

-From Linda D. Kelley, NECX